

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 1, 2012

Ms. Elizabeth M. Harman, Assistant Administrator  
DHS/FEMA/ Grants Programs Preparedness  
Tech World Building - 9<sup>th</sup> Floor South Tower  
800 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20472

Re: City of Trenton's Department of Fire & Emergency Services, SAFER Grant: EMW-2012-FH-00053

Dear Assistant Administrator Harman:

I am writing in support of the application submitted by the City of Trenton's Department of Fire and Emergency Services for funding through the FY 2012 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) SAFER Grant Program. If awarded, this funding would allow the Fire and Emergency Services department to retain 55 firefighters, as well as hire nine additional firefighters.

Trenton's emergency responders are responsible for the City's 85,000 residents, and an additional working population of over 50,000 state and federal employees. Federal funding is essential for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services to retain and hire the necessary number of firefighters to ensure more efficient and reliable services for the City's residents and those living in the surrounding communities. Without the retention and hiring awards, the loss of manpower will force the closing of four companies: the rescue company, two engine companies and one ladder company.

Federal assistance will enable the Fire and Emergency Services department to restore the firefighter positions slated to be eliminated in 2013, and to hire an additional nine firefighters. Thank you for your consideration of this important request that will greatly strengthen the firefighting resources available to the City of Trenton's Department of Fire and Emergency Services. I appreciate your review of their application and urge all due consideration.

Sincerely,



FRANK R. LAUTENBERG  
United States Senator



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security  
FRL: bd